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Commissioner West District

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COUNTY COMMISSION  
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LIVINGSTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
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CHILLICOTHE, MO. 64601

COUNTY CLERK  
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August 8, 2002

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Dockets Management Facility, Room-PL-401  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FHWA Docket No. FHWA-99-5933-544  
Statewide Transportation Planning: Metropolitan Transportation Planning  
Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to state our opposition to the Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (SNPRM) issued on June 19, 2002 and state our strong preference for the May 23, 2000 proposed rule. It is crucial that rural county officials have more input into how federal highway dollars are spent.

My objections to the Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking includes the following:


- The SNPRM deletes the definition of "non-metropolitan local officials" allowing each state to determine who is a local official and whom they want to consult with.
- The SNPRM changes the definition of consultation by deleting the requirement that this be done "in accordance with established process". It is essential that there be an established process in each state.
- The SNPRM deletes the requirement that each state work in partnership with local officials in developing what the consultation process will be. In order that the process have credibility, local officials should have the opportunity to participate in the development of the process.
- The SNPRM deletes the provision that allows FSWA to consider local official participation when certifying each state's statewide transportation program (STIP).

Without this provision, non-metropolitan local officials have no ability to raise their concerns about the effectiveness of the consultation process.


Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

LIVINGSTON COUNTY COMMISSION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Western District Commissioner

  
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Eastern District Commissioner